The full and True

RELATION

OF ALL THE

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ASSIZES

Holden at

CHELMSFORD,

FOR THE

Countie of Eſſex.

Which began on *Monday* the 29th of this inſtant *March* and ended on *Thurſday* the 1ſt. of *April*. With an exact Account of the moſt remarkable Trials of ſeveral notorious Offendors, both for Murders and Robberies.

And more eſpecially of one *John Manchetman* a Chirurgion, for murthering his Wife, and two notorious Highway-men, *viz. Richard Downs* and *Tho. King*, and ſeveral other conſiderable Trials. With the number of thoſe Condemned to dye, burn'd in the hand and to be whipt.

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THe firſt that received their Tryals were two notorious Highway-men, *Richard Downs* and *Tho. King* who were Indicted and Arraigned, for that they on the 13th of *January* 1679 In the Company of *Richard Hodgkinſon*, Executed at *Tyburn* the laſt Seſſions, and one *Edwards*, not yet taken, Robbed *Ipſwitch-Coach* of monies to the vallue of 400 pounds, the manner thus, the ſad Goach being about five miles off from *Ipſwitch*, the four parties abovementioned, about nine of the

Clock in the Evening came Riding up to the Coach, which was full of Paſſengers but moſt Women, and no ſooner one of them asking what it was a Clock, which was the Word agreed amongſt them for the onſet, but they fired into the Coach with their Piſtols and expreſſing ſeveral Oaths, Commanded them on pain of of Death for to Deliver, which put them into ſuch fright as freely ſurrendered up what Coin they had which not ſuffiſing their covetous deſires, they ranſack farther, and when they had taken all that they could find, departed; but Hue and Cry being ſent after them they were purſued and taken e're they could reach the City of *London*, only *Edwards* eſcaping, by leaving his Horſe and running down *Hoſier Lane* in *Weſtſmithfield*; they had likewiſe robbed another Gentleman of one hundred pounds more, that alſo appeared againſt them; the Evidence was plain and poſitive, ſo that it could not be denied, whereupon the Jury brought them in Guilty of the Fellonies and Robbery, and they accordingly received Sentence of Death.

The next was *John Manchetman*, a Chirurgion, who was tried for that notorious Crime of Murthering his Wife, the circumſtances of the bloody Deed was ſworn to as followeth, the Priſoner being newly come on Shore, having been at Sea for a conſiderable time, was informed that ſhe had been over laviſh of of her Favours to a Neighbour of hers, being by profeſſion a Shoomaker; he being newly come from Sea and coming home as it is ſaid ſurprized her too familiar with the ſaid Shoomaker, whereupon he in a Rage threatned her, yet notwithſtanding the Rage of Jealoſie, he ſeemed reconciled, but to the contrary retaining an inward hatred, which ſhe perceiving, fled to a neighbours houſe, thinking to ſtay whilſt his Anger was overpaſt, yet he with a ſeemed Reconciliation, came to invite her home, and came up to her as if he would imbrace her, but with his bloody hands he ſtab'd her with a Knife under her Right Breaſt, about four inches deep, of which Wound ſhe in a little time died, only confeſſing her innocence, at his Trial he did not deny the Fact, and after his being convicted did confeſs his Raſhneſs in proceeding on ſuch Cruelty, without the leaſt remorſe, after he was found Guilty of wilful Murder and received Sentance of Death, he ſeemed exceeding Penitent, and did bewail his cruel Crime, ſhedding many Tears, that he had given himſelf over to the ſuggeſtions of the Prince of darkneſs, and ſo continued to the utmoſt.

The next was one *Lawrence White* alias Peck, a notorious High-

way

way man, being impeached by *Downs* aforementioned, was tried for several Roberies in the County of *Essex*, the first was, that he near *Braintre*, in the Company of some others, did set upon one Mr. *Marle* a Grasier on the Kings High-way, who defended himself for some time, against them, whereupon the Prisoner fired his Pistol at him, but missing him, shot his Mare through the nose but at last the aforesaid *Marle* getting the Start of them, and by the goodness of his Mare, made his escape by swift Riding, they following him till he came within half a mile of the Town.

The next Robbery that was proved against him, was for taking away twenty pounds, from one Mr *Jenkins* upon *Newmarket Heath*, on the 17th of *December* last the witnesses swore point blanck against him, and he being famous for his notorious Villanies, the jury found him Guilty of the several Felonies and Robberies, so that being convicted, he received Sentance of Death, he had formerly followed the occupation of cutting Cattel, and lived in good repute, but as he pleaded in Court, he had been inticed and drawn away by keeping Company with several notorious Offendors some of which have been already Executed.

Thomas Chambers a notorious Criminal was tried for Fellony, the manner of which being thus, he coming into the Shop of one *Mary Hunt*, telling her he expected a Gentleman to come to him, that lived a little distance thence, and desired her that seeing he did not come, she would go call him, which she undertook leaving only a little Child in her shop, but ere she returned her Customer was sheard off with a six Gallon Runlet full of Brandy, this being about eight of the Clock in the evening, so that though he was immediately pursued yet he could not be then taken, but was the next day as he was selling his Merchandice, to this Indictment he pleaded not Guilty, but the proof being plain, he was brought in Guilty and was burn'd in the hand

Sarah Bell, was Arraigned and tried for Murthering a little Girl her Apprentice, about twelve years of Age, the circumstances of the Murther as followeth, the said Girl having crossed her, in not performing a message she had sent her of, she took up a Knife which lay upon the dresser, and threw it at her, with such an unlucky hand as the force caused it to enter her Brest, three inches deep, of which wound she died, so that although the Prisoner pleaded innocence, and that she intended no such Cruelty, yet she having often threatned her before, she was brought in Guilty of Manslaughter, and she was burn'd in the hand accordingly.

Henry Crofts was Indicted and took his Trial, for that he in the company of two more, not yet taken, broke open the house of one *William Evans*, near *Burnt wood*, and thence did felloniously take and bear away goods, as Pewter, Brats and Linnen, to the vallue of five pounds, but the Burglary being committed in the day time, he received the benefit of his Clargy, and was burnt in the hand.

James Matthews for stealing of Sheep to a considerable number, from one *William Simonds*., was likewise tried, and pleaded not Guilty to his Indictment, whereupon evidence were produced that he had sold the same at *Rumpford*, and that he had been an ill liver, so that not being able to bring testimony how he came by those he sold, he was found Guilty and was burnt in the hand.

George

George Deermer, formerly a Horſecourſer, was Arraigned, and tried, for ſtealing a Gueldíng from one Mr. *Wilſon* near *Ipſwitch*, vallued at five pounds, and as he was offering the ſame to ſale, was apprehended, his plea was that he bought him, and gave a legal price for him according to his true vallue, and pretended that he could prove the ſame, but his Witneſs not being to be found he was found Guilty, and among the reſt was burn'd in the hand, it being ſuppoſed the firſt Fact that ever he committed.

James Dixon, was Arraigned for Fellony, and having been a notorious Offendor, though the evidence was not ſo poſitive, yet by many credible circumſtances he was thought Guilty, as not being able to give an account where he was during the time of the Robberies, ſo that he was upon weighing each particular brought in Guilty and afterwards burnt in the hand.

Arthor Paſcal, *Edward Johnſon*, *Daniel Toppan*, and *Jeremiah Perminter* being all inconſiderable Offendors, for petty Fellonies, under the vallue of twelve pence, were ordered to be whipt.

There were in all four Condemned to die, *viz. John Manchetman* for Murthering his Wife, *Richard Downs*, *Thomas King*, *Lawrence White*, alias *Peck*, three notorious Highwaymen. there were ſix burn'd in the hand and four to be whipt, and ſo the Aſſizes ended.

FINIS.